	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Notice of Allowability	09/839,263	KITADA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	VAN H. NGUYEN	2194	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to *the Amendment filed 12/27/2006 and the telephonic interview on 02/15/2007.*

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *2, 3, 6-20, 22-40, and 42-55 (now renumbered as 1-50).*

3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some*   c) ☐ None of the:

        1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

        3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the

            International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * Certified copies not received: _____ .

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

    (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

        1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of

        Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
    Paper No./Mail Date <u>03/29/06</u>

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
    Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This communication is responsive to the Amendment filed 12/27/2006 and the telephonic

interview on 02/15/2007.

Claims 2, 3, 6-20, 22-40, and 42-55 are pending in this application. By this Examiner's

amendment, claims 2, 6, 11, 12, 14-20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 29, 31, 32, 34-40, 43, 45, 50, 51,

and 53-55 have been amended; and claim 5 has been cancelled.

Information Disclosure Statement

2.   The Applicant's Information Disclosure Statement, filed 03/29/2006, has been received,

entered into the record, and considered.

Terminal Disclaimer

3.   Applicant has filed a Terminal Disclaimer (on 02/16/2007) for the subject application in

connection with U.S. Patent No. 7,149,784 and U.S. Application No. 09/684, 965

because of the obviousness-type double patenting that exists between the applications.

The prior double patenting rejection is withdrawn.

4.   **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT:**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or

additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37

CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no

later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with

Mr. Andrew T. Harry (Reg. No. 56, 959) on 02/15/2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

(a)   **All previous copies of claims 2, 6, 11, 12, 14-20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 29, 31, 32, 34-**

        40, 43, 45, 50, 51, and 53-55 have been replaced with the following clean copy

        of claims 2, 6, 11, 12, 14-20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 29, 31, 32, 34-40, 43, 45, 50, 51,

        and 53-55 as amended by the Examiner's amendment:

Claim 2.   A method for managing applications service provider (ASP) transactions

        between an ASP and an ASP user, comprising:

receiving an ASP transaction request having a user identifier from said

user via a communications network;

determining whether a document profile exists for said user identifier

received, said document profile indicating at least one available ASP configured

to perform document management;

sending to said user a document manager interface screen based on said

determination of whether a document profile exists, said document manager

interface screen indicating the at least one available ASP indicated by the

document profile;

selecting said at least one available ASP for processing said transaction

request from said document manager interface screen; and

transmitting instructions for performing said transaction request, via said

communications network, to said selected ASP which uses said instructions to

perform said transaction request.

Claim 6.   The method of Claim 1, wherein said step of selecting said at least one

available ASP comprises selecting a basic ASP using said document profile

selection received.

Claim 11.   The method of Claim 10, wherein said step of selecting said at least one

available ASP comprises selecting a basic ASP that performs typical services

utilized with said document type selection received.

Claim 12.   The method of Claim 10, further comprising:

creating a document profile based on said document type selection

received; and

storing said document profile in association with said user identifier in

said local memory.

Claim 14:   The method of Claim 13, further comprising:

sending, in response to receiving said document consultation request, said

document manager interface screen including a document type menu to said user

via said communications network;

generating a document type selection from a user input to said document

type menu; and

receiving said document type selection via said communications network.

Claim 15.   The method of Claim 14, wherein said step of selecting said at least one

available ASP comprises selecting a basic ASP that performs services utilized

with said document type selection received.

Claim 16.   The method of Claim 15, further comprising:

creating a document profile based on said document type selection

received; and

storing said document profile in association with said user identifier in a

memory which is local to a processing device.

Claim 17.   The method of Claim 2, wherein said step of selecting said at least one

available ASP comprises selecting a special service ASP for providing special

services independently offered by said special service ASP.

Claim 18.   The method of Claim 17, wherein said step of selecting a special service

ASP comprises:

receiving a request for a special service from said user via said

communications network; and

locating in a memory, said special service ASP associated with the special

service request received.

Claim 19.   The method of Claim 2, wherein said step of receiving an ASP transaction

request from said user and transmitting instructions for performing said

transaction requested are performed via the Internet.

Claim 20.   A computer readable storage medium containing program instructions for

execution on a computer system, which when executed by the computer system,

cause the computer system to perform the steps recited in any one of Claims 2, 3,

and 6-19.

Claim 22.   A system comprising:

a memory device having embodied therein, data related to managing applications

service provider (ASP) transactions between an ASP and an ASP user; and

a processor in communication with said memory device, wherein said processor is

configured to receive an ASP transaction request by receiving a user identifier from said

user via a communications network, said processor being further configured to:

determine whether a document profile exists for said user identifier received, said

document profile indicating at least one available ASP configured to perform document

management;

send to said user a document manager interface screen based on said

determination of whether a document profile exists, said document manager interface

screen indicating the at least one available ASP indicated by the document profile;

select said at least one available ASP for processing said transaction request from

said document manager interface screen; and

transmit instructions for performing said transaction request, via said

communications network, to said selected ASP which uses said instructions to perform

said transaction request.

Claim 24.   The system of Claim 23, wherein said processor is configured to send said

document manager interface screen by sending an interface screen including a

document profile menu that lists said document profile located in said memory.

Claim 26.   The system of Claim 25, wherein said processor is configured to select

said at least one available ASP by selecting a basic ASP using said document

profile selection received.

Claim 28.   The system of Claim 22, wherein said processor is configured to

determine whether a document profile exists by determining that a document

profile does not exist by searching a memory which is local to a processing device

which determines whether a document profile exists.

Claim 29.   The system of Claim 28, wherein said processor is configured to send said

document manager interface screen by sending an interface screen including a

document type menu.

Claim 31.   The system of Claim 30, wherein said processor is configured to select

said at least one available ASP by selecting a basic ASP that performs typical

services utilized with said document type selection received.

Claim 32.   The system of Claim 30, wherein said processor is further configured to:

create a document profile based on said document type selection received; and

store said document profile in association with said user identifier in said local

memory.

Claim 34.   The system of Claim 33, wherein said processor is further configured to:

send, in response to receiving said document consultation request, <u>said</u>

document manager interface screen including a document type menu to said user

via said communications network;

generate a document type selection from a user input to said document

type menu; and

receive said document type selection via said communications network.

Claim 35.   The system of Claim 34, wherein said processor is configured to select

said at least one available ASP by selecting a basic ASP that performs services

utilized with said document type selection received.

Claim 36.   The system of Claim 35, wherein said processor is further configured to:

create a document profile based on said document type selection received;

and

store said document profile in association with said user identifier in a

memory.

Claim 37.   The system of Claim 22, wherein said processor is configured to select

said at least one available ASP by selecting a special service ASP for providing

special services independently offered by said special service ASP.

Claim 38.   The system of Claim 37, wherein said processor is configured to select a

special service ASP by:

        receiving a request for a special service from said user via said

communications network; and

        locating in a memory, said special service ASP associated with the special

service request received.

Claim 39:   The system of Claim 22, wherein said processor is configured to receive

said ASP transaction request from said user and transmit instructions for

performing said transaction requested via the Internet.

Claim 40:   A system for managing applications service provider (ASP) transactions

between an ASP and an ASP user, comprising:

        means for receiving an ASP transaction request including a user identifier

from said user via a communications network;

        means for determining whether a document profile exists for said user

identifier received, said document profile indicating at least one available ASP

configured to perform document management;

        means for sending to said user a document manager interface screen based

on said determination of whether a document profile exists, said document

manager interface screen indicating the at least one available ASP indicated by

the document profile;

means for selecting the at least one available ASP for processing said

transaction request from said document manager interface screen; and

means for transmitting instructions for performing said transaction

request, via said communications network, to said selected ASP which uses said

instructions to perform said transaction request.

Claim 43.   The system of Claim 42, wherein said means for sending a document

manager interface screen comprises means for sending an interface screen

including a document profile menu that lists said document profile located in said

local memory.

Claim 45:   The system of Claim 44, wherein said means for selecting said at least

one available ASP comprises means for selecting a basic ASP using said

document profile selection received.

Claim 50:   The system of Claim 49, wherein said means for selecting said at least one

available ASP comprises means for selecting a basic ASP that performs typical

services utilized with said document type selection received.

Claim 51:   The system of Claim 49, further comprising:

means for creating a document profile based on said document type

selection received; and

means for storing said document profile in association with said user

identifier in a local memory.

Claim 53: The system of Claim 52, further comprising:

means for sending, in response to receiving said document consultation

request, said document manager interface screen including a document type menu

to said user via said communications network;

means for generating a document type selection from a user input to said

document type menu; and

means for receiving said document type selection via said communications

network.

Claim 54: The system of Claim 53, wherein said means for selecting said at least

one available ASP comprises means for selecting a basic ASP that performs

services utilized with said document type selection received.

Claim 55: The system of Claim 54, further comprising:

means for creating a document profile based on said document type

selection received; and

means for storing said document profile in association with said user

identifier in a local memory.

(b)   Claim 5 has been cancelled.

5.   REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE:

Claims 2, 3, 6-20, 22-40, and 42-55 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art does not expressly teach or render obvious the invention as recited

in independent claims 2, 22, and 40.

The features as recited in independent claims 2, 22, and 40 *"sending to the user a*

document manager interface screen based on the determination of whether a document

profile exists, the document manager interface screen indicating the at least one

available ASP indicated by the document profile; and transmitting instructions for

performing the transaction request, via the communications network, to the selected ASP

which uses the instructions to perform the transaction request", when taken in the

context of the claims as a whole, was not uncovered in the prior art teachings.

Nor were references uncovered that would have provided a basis of evidence for asserting a motivation that one of ordinary skill level in the art at the time the invention was made, knowing of *a method for selecting an application service provider* in this specific environment, would have integrated or modified to teach *the method for managing applications service provider (ASP) transactions between an ASP and an ASP user* with the specific features as recited in the context of independent claims 2, 22, and 40.

Dependent claims are allowed as they depend upon allowable independent claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

CONTACT INFORMATION

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VAN H. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571) 272-3765. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:30AM - 6:00PM. The examiner can also be reached on alternative Friday. If attempts to reach the

examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, WILLIAM

THOMSON can be reached at (571) 272-3718.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is

assigned is **571-273-8300**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published

applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status

information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you

have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business

Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any response to this action should be mailed to:
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